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Carter Blamed In Stealth Leak

Associated Press

Retired Adm. Elmo Zumwalt, a supporter of Republican Ronald Reagan's presidential candidacy, quoted unnamed high-level sources as saying President Carter made the decision to leak the "Stealth" program as part of his presidential reelection effort.

The former chief of naval operations, testifying under oath to a House Armed Services investigations subcommittee, quoted the sources as saying David Aaron, a National Security Council aide, leaked the information to The Washington Post after Carter gave his approval.

A White House spokesman, queried about Zumwalt's charges, said: "The accusation is a lie. Adm. Zumwalt is either being misled or consciously playing gutter politics."

[The Post published a story on Aug. 14 about administration plans to go public during the presidential campaign with Stealth technological breakthroughs. George C. Wilson, author of the story, said yesterday that Zumwalt was "incorrect" in his assertions about the source.]